

AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph 0054 to replace "preferably 0.5 centimeters" with "preferably approximately 0.5 centimeters" in two places, as shown in the following:

[0054] A moving average of the stripe diameters is computed using several consecutive selected stripes, the number of consecutive selected stripes is preferably between five and fifteen, and the number of consecutive selected stripes is more preferably ten. Consecutive averages are compared. If the average increases by at least ten percent, the bulb position 112 is set to the position of the center slice from the average, as shown in FIG. 8. A second ROI 110a is horizontally centered approximately 1.25 centimeters below the bulb (shown as D2). The ROI 110a is vertically centered 0.05 centimeters above the highest point of the far wall of the carotid artery (i.e., the bottom of the selected stripe of the frame) within the horizontal range of the ROI 110a. The ROI 110a width (W) is preferably approximately 0.5 centimeters and the ROI 110a height (H) is preferably approximately 0.5 centimeters.